

Bridgwater Port Sanitary Authority.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1911.

I beg to submit my report on the work of the Bridgwater Port Sanitary Authority during the year ending the 31st of December, 1911.

The health conditions of the Port continue to be very satisfactory; no sickness has been reported and no death has occurred on board any vessel.

With reference to the weekly reports of infectious disease in foreign ports issued by the Local Government Board, these have had my constant attention and steps have been taken to ensure my having timely information of the arrival of a vessel from an infected port. There have been, during the year, no arrivals from any actually infected port, but as during the Autumn Cholera was prevalent in certain Russian ports, it was thought wise to inspect a vessel arriving from St. Petersburg on October 7th. The health of the crew was, however, found to be quite satisfactory.

With regard to the Orders and Regulations relating to matters of public health and the examination of food, I have not been called upon to take any action.

No meat is imported, and what food comes into the port is principally in the form of dry goods from Cardiff and Bristol for distribution amongst tradesmen in the town and district.

In conclusion I would once more draw the attention of the Authority to the lack of Isolation Accommodation and would point out that the necessity for such accommodation, if it arises at all, will arise suddenly.

In my view, therefore, steps should be taken without delay to prepare for such eventuality.

Appended to this report is one I have received from the Inspector of Nuisances (Mr. Francis Parr), viz:—

I have to inform you that during the year ending 31st December, 1911, the usual inspection of vessels arriving within the jurisdiction of the Port Sanitary Authority was fully maintained and I herewith beg to submit two tables shewing the number of vessels entering the Port during each month, the number of visits and defects, and also a second table dealing with the nature of the defects and the result.



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TABLE No. 1.

Shewing number of Ships entering the Port, the number of visits and sanitary defects discovered.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.	Visits.	Defects. B. F.
January	...	142	2	144	129 3 —
February	...	119	2	121	113 3 1
March	...	164	2	166	117 2 —
April	...	159	1	160	142 1 1
May	...	215	4	219	178 3 —
June	...	130	1	131	109 2 2
July	...	141	6	147	121 1 3
August	...	149	4	153	125 1 2
September	...	150	1	151	121 4 2
October	...	141	4	145	118 3 —
November	...	119	—	119	98 2 —
December	...	96	1	97	79 — —
Total	1725	28	1753	1450	25 11

TABLE No. 2.

Nature of defects and how dealt with.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.	Abated.	Left over.
Dirty Forecastle	...	16	4	20	19 1
Damp Forecastle	...	4	—	4	3 1
Gear in Forecastle	...	3	—	3	—
Forecastle badly ventilated	1	—	3	4	—
Fire in Cabin	...	1	—	1	— 1
Latrine Dirty	...	—	4	4	—
Total	25	11	36	33	3

With reference to the thirty-three abated notices above mentioned, all the requirements of the Sanitary Authority were carried out previous to the vessels leaving the Port, and with reference to those left over, viz., 3,

Dirty Forecastle. Informal notice was given the Captain to do the necessary work, he however left the port on October 17th and notice was sent to the port of destination. On examining the vessel on its return on December 5th, it was found that the order had been complied with.

Damp Forecastle. In this case the necessary works were carried out between the vessel leaving port on the 18th January and her return on the 1st February.

Fire in Cabin. The vessel left port in order to undergo repairs at Gloucester.

G. W. HARVEY BIRD,

Medical Officer of Health.

24th January, 1912.

